For the road

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For the road

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Chapter 1

Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth

kk so this was the first book i ever really attempted to write... i'm still working on it, but bear with it, it gets better. this is from like 2 years ago when the whole Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth thing came about so it's not the best in the world, but i promise you it get's better! //_^

Prologue

We drove down the winding road in silence just taking in the blaring music. Elizabeth turned down the stero and turned to me.

"Why are you so happy?" I gave her a blank stare.

"What do you mean Liz? Am I not allowed to be happy?" she sighed hevily as she often does when I annoy her.

"You're allowed to be happy, it's just that... I don't know, I'm gonna miss California." Ironically California On My Mind by Wild Light-if you've never listened to this song it is a must-came on the radio. I turned the stero up and laughed.

"I sure as hell won't."

Chapter 1 Uneventful Morning

It was a Monday morning in Seal Rock, Oregon. I sat in the back row of Mrs. Fig's eleventh grade homeroom tapping my pencil on the desk sisnging to myself Electro-Socket Blues by Rogue Wave, and waiting for my note to return from my best friend Ember. It was just another uneventful morning. I glanced down at my favourite book Twilight and smiled to myself thinking of Bella and Edward. Edward, I thought to myself imagining my own vampire boyfriend. The note popped into view. I opened it.

Jade stop singing to yourself and pay attention now, cause I'm about to tell you something very important... feedel deedel dop fop!!!!!!!

I laughed a little and then wrote back.

What the hell em???? Can't you stay on a subject for like 1 sec????

Yep, my name is Jade, Jade Elysia Carson. Yea I know it's weird, but my name fits my personality, and as my brothers say, "Carson rhymes with arson!" My best friend in the entire universe is Ember Hurst... yes, he is random. I was about to fold the note back up and slide it back to Ember when Mrs. Fig called my name. Uh oh, busted! Well at least it was homeroom and I wouldn't have to answer a question!

"Yes?" I looked up and she was at my side! It startled me and I jumped. It was embarrassing.

"This is Jewel Evans he's new here and I was wondering if you could show him to all his classes. I noticed that you two have the same schedule!" god he's probably some geek or worse, a jock or even worse than that... a prep! God I can't stand preps! Oh

well I'll do it anyway, and if you're wondering why I can't see this kid, it's because Fig is way to fat for her own good and he's standing right behind her.

"Sure Mrs. Fig." I said reluctantly. God this kid is annoying already I like there being an empty desk behind me.

"Thank you so much." Mrs. Fig said as she did a 180 in the row and headed back to her desk. As she made her exit I saw Jewel for the first time. He had paper white skin and was wearing a black Alesana t-shirt and acid washed jeans riddled with holes. He wore Converse All Stars and his hair was cut at a medium length that fell perfectly over his right eye. He had the most beautiful ice blue eyes lined in thick black eyeliner. He gave me a crooked smile that sent chills down my spine! I was beginning to think that I was going to like this kid!

"Call this a mask, call me strong; call me a mess, call me wrong. Cause sick hearts do fine with wasting their time."

-Sick Hearts, the Used

Chapter 2

Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth Chapter 2: Fangs

hey guys, sorry it took me so long to post, i've been really busy and i'm re-typing this chapter by chapter to make sure my younger self didn't mess up too bad lol don't forget to vote!

Chapter 2 Fangs

I couldn't take my eyes off of him as he slid into the desk behind me. He was beyond beautiful... exactly like I imagined the Cullen family from Twilight to look like!

"Seeing that my friend here is being shy today, I'll start with the hellos. I'm Ember and this is Jade." Jewel seemed to be as fascinated with me as I was

with him. We locked eyes for a moment and then he looked away to say hi to Ember.

"Hi I'm Jewel. So do you have the same schedule as us?"

"No she's an art freak, I'm a band geek, but after second period I'll be following you guys all around campus!"

"Lucky us." I said speaking for the first time, balling up the note and throwing it a Ember.

"What the French toast!?" that's Ember for you, always trying to be funny. He unfolded it a couple times and started to read it, he was out of the conversation for a while trying to think of something clever to write back. I took advantage of his absence.

"So... where are you from?"

"Originally I'm from Williamsburg Virginia, but the last place I lived was California."

"Wow, that's kind of cool, I went to Cali once, it was like really hard to keep my pale complexion!" his eyes never left mine and he flashed a brilliant smile

revealing fangs. This kid is like amazing! We're like almost-I'm saying 'like' a lot... I think I'll stop now lol-exactly alike. See I have fangs, but unfortunately they're not real... well it's my teeth but I'm not a vampire. Sigh. My gaze was suddenly disrupted by a flying ball of paper. It scared me and I jumped... again. Jewel flashed his brilliant smile again, I smiled back, he seemed a little surprised, my fangs probably.

"Sorry about that, Ember can be a little immature sometimes." I said smiling again. He seemed to be more relaxed now.

"That's okay. If you think he's bad, I have two older brothers and they act like complete idiots all the time!"

"Oh then we have something in common, I have two younger brothers, identical twins!"

"Nightmarish!"

"You're telling me." I reluctantly looked down at the paper and started to unfold it.

Stop flirting!!!!!!! You're making a fool of yourself!!!!! And don't you dare start talking about vampires!

You're like soooooooo embarrassing when you do that cause you like get so involved! Get a life sista! Love ya the bells about to ring by the way, have fun with Jewel!

I quickly wrote, "fuck you! You are sooooooooooo gay!!!!!!!" on the paper and balled it up and threw it back at him right as the bell rang. I stood up and Jewel was already at my side. He was a little taller than I was so I had to slightly look up at him.

"Where to?" he said in a slightly disappointed voice. I smiled up at him.

"Building two for English." I said as I pulled on my Star Wars support our troops Clone Army satchel. He chuckled a little.

"Star Wars?"

"Hell yea! The original three, not the new ones." I said smiling.

"Agreed." Wow this kid is like my soul mate!

"Well then let's get going." When we were outside people were staring at us. I was used to it, there's

only a small group of people like me and we're always getting dirty looks. But today we were getting stared cause of Jewel. I mean he's beyond beautiful so it didn't really surprise me. He was the first to break the silence.

"So I take it you like vampires?"

"How'd you figure that out?" I asked bewildered, this kid is getting more and more like Edward Cullen, and I like it!

"Oh I noticed your fangs. And most of us do like vampires. But judging from the note Ember wrote you, he thinks it's freaky."

"Wow you're good! Ember isn't your typical dark person he's quite bubbly and tries to make everybody laugh; he's also gay. But yea, I love vampires they're my favourite subject."

"That's cool. Wait a minute... did you just say that he is gay, or you think he's gay?"

"I said he is gay... he has a boyfriend and everything!"

"Oh... that's cool."

"Yea... you must like them a lot too, vampires I mean." I was trying not to offend him or something.

"Oh yea? How do you figure that?" he said in a playful tone.

"Well for one you're the one who brought the subject up, and you have fangs." I said playing right back.

"Well you're pretty observant aren't you?" he said with a chuckle. I smiled up at him.

"I try."

"I guess you could say I'm obsessed with them. Back in California we used to role play like we were vampires, kind like a big game of pretend." He said with a far off look in his eyes. He laughed a little, and I wondered if he was remembering an inside joke... or a girlfriend.

"Oh that's cool, there's only a couple of enthusiasts here, but we've never done anything like that before, sounds like fun!"

"Quite dangerous though, nothing I would want to start here." He said with an authority in his voice.

How does he read my mind like that? Surely he's not a vampire... it's not possible. Before I knew it we were at building two. He followed me to where I sit; he's lucky there's always an empty desk behind me! Suddenly there was a note on my desk.

Jade

It was from my cousin and best friend Chalice. I opened it.

Hey who is the hottie following you? You two look like a match made in hell... in a good sense.

I wrote back.

The "hottie" following me is Jewel. He's from California and he's amazing!

As I finished a sub walked through the door. So I balled it up and slid it down the row to Chalice. She caught it and put it into her pocket for after the sub's lecture.

"Nice!" I heard in my ear. It was Jewel. I turned halfway around and he gave me a little high five. His skin was freezing and hard as stone... coincidence.

"Ok boys and girls this is going to be a study hall seeing as Mr. Adams is out." She had a high squeaky voice and kind of valley girlish and as soon as she spoke I recognized her as the varsity cheerleading coach. God I hate her and she hates me! Well not me in particular, just dark kids in general. One time at a football game (during the national anthem!) my little brothers set fire to their pom-poms while they were in the bucket! I thought it was hysterical... dad didn't. "You are allowed to move around, but if it gets too loud I will be forced to make it a silent study hall!" there were a bunch of shrugs and ok's and then everyone started to move desks around and stuff, utter chaos! Just then Chalice came up and sat by me, she had on flared jeans and a loose top, her long brown hair fell in waves around her shoulders.

"Hello there." She smiled.

"Hey."

"So are you gonna introduce me or what?"

"Oh yea um... Chalice this is Jewel, Jewel this is my cousin Chalice."

"Hey, call me Alice... so Jade tells me you're from California?"

"Yea. Word gets around fast here doesn't it!?" even though I was almost positive Alice was more amazing than I was he was still keeping eye contact with me. I felt a shiver of excitement run through me.

"You have no idea." I could hardly get the words out. He's just so... breathtaking! So the rest of the school day went on like that. Most teachers were out for some kind of meeting and wouldn't be back until Friday! I told Jewel that he picked a really good week to move! I was fascinated by him. As much as I hate to admit it I was. When school was finally over we stood looking at each other feeling awkward as Ember said a long goodbye to his boyfriend Jake.

"So um... do you need a ride home? One more passenger is nothing to me." Yes I know, I slapped myself internally after I found out what a pain it was driving Ember around. Jewel was different though, I was prepared to kick Ember out of the car if it meant that I could drive Jewel around all day. I was quite proud of my car; it was a 2008 Ford Mustang GT 500,

with a black base and red racing stripes. Most of the guys at out school were crowded around it the first time I brought it!

"Thanks but no thanks, I brought my own car."

"Ooo what kind is it?" I like cars... what can I say I grew up with a dad no mum (she died from cancer when I was ten) an older brother by two years, and two younger brothers by nine months. Hence, I like guy topics.

"Kawasaki Ninja." He said nonchalantly. Wow he's a daredevil! One of these days I will have to get a ride.

"Wow, dangerous aren't we?" I said in a playful tone.

"Oh yes!" he said, also playing. Next thing I knew, our third wheel was back and I had to get the princess home before his boyfriend did so they didn't have to talk in my car! Now I just had to find my little brothers and we could go.

"Well I've got to go find Cameron and Damian, see you tomorrow?

"Of course, see you guys!"

"Bye!" Ember chimed in. and then Jewel was gone. "Close your mouth, you're so totally drooling on yourself!"

"Oh shut up!" I got on my cell ad texted the little demons to get their asses out here. Within I minute I got a reply.

Detention

Well nice of them to tell me. I looked up from my enV2 as I heard the not so familiar sound of a crotch rocket revving up and saw Jewel speed out of the parking lot. Oh yes, I was definitely giving me a ride sometime!

"OMG! It's a stupid bike! Would you take me home already! I have a ton of homework to do!"

"Ok, ok princess let's go." He flipped me off and started walking to my car. He stopped at the passenger door and started jiggling the handle.

"It's locked fucktard." I love starting fights with him.

"Oh, I'm stupid. No duh it's locked dip shit." He loves fighting right back.

"Ok, truce?"

"Truce." I unlocked the door and he slid inside. I got in and started it. I revved it a couple of times and smiled big. If it weren't for the teachers watching from the windows u would have burned out of the parking lot leaving tire marks behind me. I revved it one more time just to be satisfied. Another one of the many boyish traits I've inherited, a need for speed!

"Why do you like that so much?" god, Ember is the girliest boy I've ever met!

"I don't really know... do you?"

"No idea." We were driving for awhile when I decided to talk girl talk... for some reason Ember is really good at that and he can spot a hot guy from a mile away! He also knows what kinds of guy somebody is just by talking to them for fifteen minutes!

"Soooo... what do you think of Jewel?"

"I if wasn't taken and he was gay then I'd totally go for him! But since I'm not and he's not I think you should go for him. He'd treat you right, and he's as

fascinated with you as I was with rubber duckies and bubble baths a couple of years ago!"

"Wow, that' really fascinated!"

"Yea and you two are like exactly alike! Literally!"

"How do you know?" I asked him skeptically.

"Well just from talking to him and he like totally has your dream car... I mean bike... I think." I giggled.

"Yes bike is correct." The rest of the ride consisted of Ember asking questions about Jewel's every move and then he'd decipher it for me, which I thought was really boring. I guess you could say Ember and I are as good friends as we are because of the way we make up for each other's faults. Like he's a girly guy and I'm a boyish girl!

"So I'll see you tomorrow sista!" Ember said as he got out of the car.

"Love ye brada!" it's and inside thing... you wouldn't understand. On my way home I found myself thinking of all the vampiric qualities Jewel had. Maybe it was just from pretending so much... maybe

it was my imagination running ramped again. Oh well all I know is I'm not about to let him go. When life hands you a dream you grab it and live it as long as possible. And Jewel was one dream I planned to live for a very long time!

"When life hands you lemons, you throw them back and demand EDWARD CULLEN!"

Chapter 3

Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth Chapter 3: Ferraris and Liberation

"I know you can be overwhelmed and you can be underwhelmed, but can you just be whelmed?"

"I think you can in Europe?" 50 bonus points to whomever can tell me what movie that's from, excluding you Bella!

Anyway, that's what I've been feeling, very, very overwhelmed. That is why I haven't been able to upload, and to make it up to you I am uploading at least three chapters this weekend! But it'll cost you! VOTE AND COMMENT!!!!!!!

Chapter 3: Ferraris and Liberation

As soon as I walked in the door I knew that no one was home. Dad was at work at his automotive repair shop, the twins at detention, and my older brother Brian was stationed in Japan (Navy). So I ran upstairs and turned my stereo up to fifty and listened to Lacey Mosley wail "I'm So Sick". Sometimes I could just get lost in the lyrics, but not today. No today I had too many questions buzzing in my head. My phone vibrated and I jumped.

Can u come nd get us????

My annoying little brothers just got even more annoying. I turned my stereo off and ran downstairs, eager to burn out of the driveway.

When I got to the school they were leaning on each other for support on the big wall that is below the office windows. When I was little I used to be so smug because I was the only one I knew that had little brothers that were identical twins. But as they got older it just got annoying, they finish each other's sentences and can know exactly what the other is thinking without saying a word! They took after me and became freaks of the night... which wasn't hard

seeing as we all have naturally black hair. They even wear the same outfits sometimes. I rolled down the passenger window as I pulled up next to them.

"Wow detention went fast today!"

"Well you know how all the teachers are at that conference? Well the dip shits forgot about getting teachers to do detention! And Donut is "busy" so he can't stay after, so they called it off!" Donut is what we all call our principal Mr. Duncan, though there are a handful of us who have never even seen a Dunkin Donuts, but the name suits him perfectly because like Fig, he's very much over weight!

So the twins got in the backseat and we drove home joking about our days and all the stupid shit we did. Damian and Cameron TP'd and flooded the boys bathroom with a couple of their friends and Cameron, the one that takes the most after me (and my favourite), unfortunately got my gift of clumsiness and broke a beaker today in science. Poor kid, as if he wasn't enough of a freak already. But amazingly they both managed to get girlfriends! Two very different girls, but very down to earth... and the

most important thing, they're not cheerleaders! -A.N I really don't mean to offend anyone if they're cheerleaders, I have some friends that are cheerleaders, it's just a running joke between my friends and I--!!!

"So how was your day Jade?" Cameron asked.

"Oh it was ok I guess."

"Don't feed us that! We saw you with that new kid Jewel!" Damian yelled at me.

"What? Oh you two are ridiculous! How'd you even see us?"

"His sisters are in out grade."

"So we were curious about this Jewel," Damian did air quotes around Jewel's name, "because we didn't want you hanging around with some weirdo..."

"So we nonchalantly waltzed past you two completely out of the way of our next class." Cameron added in.

"But you were so into him that you didn't even notice us!" see what I mean by them finishing each other's sentences!

"Wow, I didn't even see you guys!" I laughed.

"Oh my god Jade; Dream and Star have the most amazing car!" Damian burst out, I glanced in the rearview mirror.

"Who?"

"Jewel's sisters, they have a FERRARI CALIFORNIA!" Cameron finished.

"Oh my god! What color?" Ferraris are amazing to me... they go really, really fast.

"Black!" they said at the same time.

"Wow, I'll have to keep my eye out for it tomorrow then." We settled into a comfortable silence.

When we got home I blasted my stereo so it could be heard throughout the entire house. Now Bohemian Rhapsody was playing and the twins were trying desperately to reach some of the high notes while I cooked dinner. Dinner isn't such a complicated thing

for me now, I started when I was thirteen and back then I was a bit of a pyro, so I almost caught the house fire more than once. Now I'm good though... I only sometimes play in the fire.

Tonight's dinner was spaghetti, a house favourite. As I was letting the pasta boil and the meat fry looking but not really seeing my brothers make fools of themselves, I started to wonder what Jewel was doing, was he having fun watching his siblings make fools of themselves too? And then dad came home. He walked in the kitchen and gave the twins a look of confusion.

"What the hell are you two doing? You can hear you guys halfway down the road... and don't think I'm talking about the music, I'm talking about the window shattering attempts to match Queen's high notes!" we all burst into laughter and I thought for the millionth time how lucky we are to live far enough away from neighbours. "So what's for dinner tonight Lacie?" dad still calls me Lacie, it's the shortened version of my middle name, which dad though should be my first name.

"Spaghetti, special request of Ember! Speaking of whom should be arriving any second now." See, Ember has dinner with us every night because his parents died in a car accident a year ago and he now lives with his older brother who doesn't know how to cook... or do anything for that matter. So Kyle goes to his girlfriends and Ember comes here. Sure enough a couple minutes later Ember came through the door.

"Hey family!" Ember is always saying how he should just move in with us, I think he should, Kyle's a worthless pile of crap... don't get me wrong, Kyle can be a good guy, he's just a homophobic ass that doesn't want to look at Em, let alone take care of him!

"Hey Em!" the twins chimed in unison.

"If you don't mind I'm gonna go talk to dad about the arrangements we were discussing earlier."

"Sure Em, dinner's almost ready so make it fast!" I was excited that he was actually going to go through with it, he's absolutely miserable at his brother's. In a while dinner was ready and we all scattered into the different parts of the house as was normal, we never use the table.

"So what did my dad say about you moving in?" I asked when Ember and I were had just about finished dinner.

"He said that I could move in whenever I wanted to!"

"So when do you want to move in?" our house has seven rooms four of which are in use, so it's possible for him to move in A.S.A.P!

"I would love to be in here tonight but..."

"But nothing! As soon as you're finished we'll round up the twins and we can head over to your place!" I was so giddy with excitement I could hardly contain myself.

"Are you serious?"

"Hell yea!" we'll even borrow dad's truck; I bet you we can get it all in one trip!"

"That's amazing! I'm not even hungry anymore!"

We ran downstairs and I put Ember's spaghetti in the fridge.

"Hey dad can we borrow your truck?" dad was sitting in one of our big lazy boy recliners watching a re-run

of a Sprint Cup race with Damian and Cameron laying on the floor in front of him. He looked up and smiled his short black hair kinda falling into eyes. Dad was still pretty young for a guy that had four older kids, he was only thirty-eight, Brian was born when mum and dad were just seventeen years old (it's a good thing mum and dad truly did love each other ;) and I was born when they were just nineteen. Cameron and Damian were the only truly planned children.

"So soon?" he laughed and tossed the keys to me.

"C'mon dorks." Cameron and Damian leaped up and bounded out the door. "Thanks dad." I bounded out of the house, down the steps and into my garage and got into dad's 2009 Chevy Silverado. "Everyone ready?" I looked around at my boys as they nodded eagerly. "Alright then!"

We drove the fifteen minute drive to Ember's house singing to the radio, and playfully teasing each other. We finally pulled up in front of Ember's house and got out. Kyle's Jeep Cherokee was sitting outside and I braced myself for the oncoming scene. We walked up

the sidewalk and onto the porch and into the house to find Kyle lying on the couch watching the same race re-run dad was, so he does have some taste.

Kyle glanced at us. "What's with the entourage?" Ember took a deep breath.

"I'm moving out." Kyle stood up.

"What?"

"I'm moving in with the Carsons Kyle, I've had enough." Kyle was livid.

"You listen hear you little shit, if you walk out that door tonight, you're never coming back." I held my breath.

"Fine." Ember pushed past Kyle and into his room. We grabbed Ember's various boxes-he'd been preparing for this for a while-and carried them out to the truck. We only had to go back once, but we got it all and got into the truck. Kyle watched us drive off from the porch.

"Fucking ass, thinks I'll ever come back, HA!" Ember was muttering from the passenger seat. I smiled over at him. Ember was free.

"Everywhere that I go there's someone waitin' to chain me, everything that I say, there's someone tryin' to short change me, I am only this way because of what you have made me and I'm not gonna break!"

-18 Wheeler Truck, P!NK

Chapter 4

Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth Chapter 4: Nirvana

so why this all of a sudden has been rated pg 13 is beyond me... wattpad just did it... i really have no idea... maybe it knows that i say the "f" word lol. kay well here's chapter 4! VOTE AND COMMENT!!!!!

p.s: i just happened to look at the number of pages and saw that it's 5 PAGES LONG!!!!! holy shit!!!!!! sorry for the longness!

Chapter 4: Nirvana

I awoke the next morning to the usual yelling of Damian and Cameron's wrestling match going on in the second floor hallway, and Ember cheering them

on. I smiled to myself and went to my bathroom and got a shower.

It was when I was looking for an outfit when I suddenly realized that I'd be seeing Jewel again today. So I put on the cutest plaid skirt I had, my best fishnet leggings, and my Fox Racing dirt bike t-shirt, with a fishnet shirt over that. I did my makeup in red and black and I put my long black red streaked hair up in high buns with chopsticks. I was examining myself in the mirror when Ember came in my room wearing his normal skinnies and a Scissor Sisters t-shirt.

"Wow someone looks hot today, thinking of someone?" he cocked an eyebrow, I playfully shoved him.

"Silly Ember don't you know I have the right to kick you out of the house?" he laughed.

"Like you'd do that." I shook my head.

"So any idea what color you want your room to be?"

"Loads, but I think I'm gonna go with a lavender base with a black border."

"Oooh! You know what we should do?" I asked picking up my satchel.

"What?"

"We should put neon green handprints all over the walls! I think we have some green paint from when we did Cam's room."

"Yes! That's amazing let's do it!"

"Kk then we'll head over to Wal Mart after school." I looked at my phone, we had forty minutes and it takes fifteen to get to school... on a slow day. So I loaded everybody up despite their cries of "we're too early!".

When we got to school we still had twenty-five minutes and the parking lot was close to empty. We walked up to the crowd of students in the front lawn and went our separate ways. I was walking over to Ember, Chalice, James, and my normal congregating place when I heard my name. I spun around to see Jewel and a girl who looked a lot like him sitting on a picnic table.

"Hey Jade, what's up?" Jewel said.

"Aw, you know, not too much."

"Ha, this is my twin sister Elizabeth." Jewel said smiling. Elizabeth was wearing a black mini-skirt with back fishnets and a black Beatles t-shirt. She had short black hair cut at an angle to go across her eye and it was short and spiky in the back. She also had those beautiful ice blue eyes, she was absolutely stunning. They must have very beautiful parents.

"Oh, hey nice to meet you." I was almost as captivated with her as I was with her brother.

"Well it's great to meet you! You can call me Liz by the way. God it's nice to be able to put a face to a name, you're all Jewel's been able to talk about!" Jewel was blushing, totally crimson!

"Oh well..." I said looking down and blushing a little myself. "So do you have our same schedule?" I asked trying to change the subject.

"Unfortunately not, but I think I can manage to get myself around." Just then the bell rang.

"Well at least we have homeroom together." I said looking at Jewel, he was smiling.

"Yea, you'll love Mrs. Fig Liz, she's a rather... round woman." We all laughed. Out of the corner of my eye I saw my brothers grinning as wide as possible and then turn together and walk off... in step and in time. Freaks!

Mrs. Fig was out today so homeroom was nuts. Ember, Jewel, Liz, and I all had a paper fight (that's when you rip paper out of your notebook and ball it up and then throw it as each other!).

"Soooo... I hear your younger sisters have a Ferrari California?" I said shaking paper out of my hair.

"Well really it's mine, they were just driving it yesterday because I was out." Liz said.

"Wow that's cool... how fast does it go?"

"Eh, about two-hundred."

"Wow... have you ever gotten up to that?" Liz took on an evil smile.

"Once back in California."

"Jade do you like cars as much as you like vampires?" Jewel asked.

"Are you kidding? That's all her and her brothers talk about is cars! Cars, racing, and crashing!" Ember said shaking his head.

"Really? Huh that's interesting, I've never met a girl that wanted to go faster than sixty and was obsessed with vampires! Well except for Liz here but she's blood," he kinda laughed at that, I wondered what the joke was "so we're supposed to be like the same."

"Yea, I've never met anyone else like me either... guess you could say I'm one of a kind!" I said. Most girls are wimps and don't like to go fast just because they're afraid of crashing, psh as if.

"I'd say you are!"

"Oh shut up." Ember crossed his arms over his chest and stuck his tongue out at me. The bell rang and he looked up with a sudden sparkle in his eyes, I wondered what kind of mayhem he had in store for us today.

"See you guys later!" he said and flew out of the room. Jewel gave me an inquiring look.

"Where the hell is he going in such a hurry? Excited to get to science?" he said when we were on our way to English.

"No, he probably set up some practical joke this morning and wants to see it in action, you know the usual." I said with a shrug, this for us was normal.

"Oh." Jewel said, he seemed a little shocked; he'd probably never had a friend like Ember I decided.

"Where'd Liz go?" she was gone before Ember had even looked up.

"To first period...?" Jewel said with that 'well duh' tone of his.

"Sorry, sometimes I think out loud. So do you think she like me?" I just thought out loud again, and I blushed. He laughed a little.

"Well how could anyone not like you?"

"What kind of question is that?"

"Sorry thinking out loud." He said with a British accent, I cocked an eyebrow. "What? I spent some

time in England and the accent shows through sometimes." He laughed.

"Is there anywhere you haven't been?" he thought for a moment.

"Nope." He said. I playfully shoved him.

"Oh stop it, anyway, it's kinda obvious why people couldn't like me, why didn't you tell me you had a twin?" ouch, where'd that come from?

"Ok, ok truce, you get mad at the slightest things." He chuckled.

"I know." I said looking down and feeling bad, sometimes I let my anger get the best of me.

"Tell you what," Jewel said putting his arm around my shoulders, "why don't we make this a q and a day seeing as we both have a lot to learn about each other."

"Sounds good."

"Ok so tell me why you get so mad." It had to be that question.

"Next question please."

"Why?"

"Fine. I don't know why I get so mad, or violent, I've been this way for a while, since my mum died." I said in almost a whisper. I didn't like to talk about mum; I felt like I'd let her down in some way, I just couldn't put my finger on it though.

"Oh I'm sorry."

"S'ok, so how many brothers and sisters do you have?"

"Well there's six of us all together..."

"Holy shit really!?" Jewel laughed.

"Yea, but we're all adopted. But we're in sets of twins Antoni and Jez have a thing for matching sets." I gave him a look of disbelief.

"I'm kidding, that's just a running joke between all of us, calm down."

"Ok, you said you have two older brothers, and then there's you and Liz, and then Dream and Star?" I guessed.

"Yea, Adam and Matt are the oldest."

"Cool, cool."

"So, what kind of car do you drive?" oooh! Good question!

"It's a 2008 Mustang GT 500." I said smugly.

"That's a nice car, how'd you manage that one, it seems like everyone here has old junkers their parents gave up on."

"My dad owns a garage and somebody came in one day wanting to get rid of it so he bought it."

"That's cool, so how many siblings do you have?"

"There's four of, all my mum and dad's. There's the twins Cameron and Damian, they're in the grade below us, and then there's me, and then Brian, who's twenty-three and in the Navy, currently stationed in Japan. That's his way of dealing with the anger, the twins like to set stuff on fire, Brian likes to blow things up." I smiled. "But that's not for me."

"Why?"

"Hey mister you're exceeding your question limit." I laughed.

"There's a question limit?"

"There is now."

"But really, what do you have against the Navy?"

"Um... well... I'm afraid of boats." I watched Titanic when I was little...been afraid of boats ever since. "I'm also afraid of the ocean... damn you Jaws." Jewel laughed.

"So what's your way of dealing with the anger?"

"Music." And then we were at the English building. We walked in and it was once again chaos, so we sat at the back of the room with Chalice. She had her head down and her breathing was irregular. She was crying.

"Um... Alice what's wrong?" I said as I sat in the desk beside her.

"Mum died this morning." She said between sobs.

"What!? Why the fuck are you here?!" she shrugged.

"We had nowhere else to go." She managed to gasp out. There was a little part of my brain that suggested that we knew it was coming, but I cried anyway.

Chalice's mum and dad divorced like four years ago and he left Aunt Jillian with Chalice and her little sister Luna. Well Chalice was already getting into things that she shouldn't, like drinking... James, so adding Luna who was only like twelve at the time, was just utter chaos. So Aunt Jill let herself go. So now Chalice doesn't have a place to stay because both grandparents are dead and we don't even know where Uncle Fred is.

"Oh my god! Where are you gonna stay?!"

"Don't know, the house I guess, I inherited it... at least I will when I turn eighteen in November." I shook my head.

"No, you can't do that, the government, CYS won't let you. I guess you'll just have to stay with us." We had two more rooms to spare so we could fit two more people! Plus they were family! She lifted her head, her chocolate brown eyes wide.

"Are you serious? I thought you took Ember in last night?" jesus word gets around fast!

"Hell yea, we have two more rooms to spare! And just think, you can have the other attic room!"

"Oh my god! Jade Elysia Carson you're the best cousin ever!" she said and stood up to hug me. I was so happy to help her.

"Excuse me, can Chalice Avery come to Mr. Dunkin's office please?" the office lady said over the p.a speaker. She picked up her book bag and walked hesitantly out of the room.

"Soooo... how many rooms does your house have?" Jewel laughed.

"Seven, and since Brian moved out, only four were in use until last night when we rescued Ember from the hell hole his brother Kyle called a home." I said in a rush.

"Ok... I'm lost." Jewel sighed with a defeated look.

"Ember's parents died in a car accident last year so his good for nothing brother took over the house. Well since Ember had had enough, he moved in with us. Now the story with Alice is we're cousins, as you heard. Her mum and my mum were sisters. She went

down hill so bad after my mum died that uncle Fred divorced her like four years ago, and now Aunt Jill died and we don't know where Uncle Fred is so she's gonna live with us. Still confused?"

"Um... no... yes... oh I give up! Let's just say that I completely one-hundred-percent understand." He said laughing. I honestly didn't blame him; it was a lot to take in.

"Ha, so shall we continue with our question asking?"

"We shall, how do you deal with your anger through music?"

"Well music has always been my one love. I've never loved anything more. But the way I deal with anger is by turning up the music as loud as possible and screaming the lyrics. And the rest of my family likes my music so it doesn't bother them. Oh and sometimes I write music."

"What kind of music?" his eyes were bright with excitement.

"Piano." I was surprised at how easy it was to confess something to him that I haven't even told my three best friends.

"Wow that's amazing, we have way too much in common! I play the piano too!"

"Really?" this really didn't shock me; I was beginning to think that Jewel could do anything.

The rest of the morning we just asked each other questions and by lunch Ember was getting sick of us. We had found Liz waiting outside of the cafeteria and showed her to our table. Chalice was still gone.

"Hey Em have you see Alice? I asked when we got out food. All except for Jewel and Liz, they told me that they don't eat cafeteria food. I told them it was a smart move.

"Nope, why don't you ask James?" James had just sat down at the table.

"James have you seen Alice?"

"Yea she and Luna were walking out to someone's car with that someone. I think it might have been CYS.

Don't worry Jade, she'll be ok." There was something in his voice that made me think that he was trying to convince himself too. The entire rest of the day she didn't appear.

While Ember said goodbye to his boyfriend I texted Cameron and found out that Donut was giving them detention and they'd walk to the shop afterward. Jewel had already taken off so I just sat in my car blaring Fully Alive.

"Ok let's go get some paint!" Ember said as he slid into the passenger seat. We drove into town, which shouldn't really be called town because all it has are Wal Mart, various fast food restaurants, the mall, and Cars by Carson. We went into Wal Mart and got two gallons of lavender and a gallon of black, we also did some well-deserved candy shopping.

Two hours, and four gallons of paint later we were finished. To celebrate, I decided to make lasagna. When I was grating the cheese Ember came running in with his pink pajamas on and a confused look on his face.

"Who do we know that has a black Mercedes?"

"Um... no one, why?" a Mercedes? No one that I knew could afford one of those... well except for the Evans.

"Oh, well there's one in your driveway. Oh my god! I hope it's no one important! I'm not dressed for important people!" we heard thumping around on the porch so Ember came running around the side of the island and hid behind me. The door opened and Chalice came through the door carrying a couple of duffle bags and Luna tagging along behind her. He popped up from behind me with a gasp.

"Alice how long have you had a Mercedes?" Ember said looking as confused as ever.

"I don't, it's the CYS lady's." her face took on a look of amusement, "nice pj's!"

"Tee-hee, thank you. Oh, hi Luna!" Ember always loved Luna; I mean what's not to love about Luna? She was only a year younger than us and she had that whole scene thing going. Her blonde hair was always teased up and had various hair extensions.

"Hi Em!" she said running into his arms.

"Come on, I'll take you to your room." Ember said when he caught the 'we need to talk' look that passed between Chalice and I. When they were gone I put down my cheese grater and went over to Chalice where she was still standing in the foyer.

"I know it's hectic here, but it's better than living in an empty house."

"Are you kidding? I love it here! My house was so lonely and quiet, it was unbearable!"

"Come on I'll take you up to your room. Our bathrooms are connected!"

"Yes! We can have like midnight meetings in the bathroom!" she said sarcastically.

"C'mon once we get you unpacked you can help me with dinner."

"Sure." So that's how our evening went. There was no sense in painting Chalice's room because she had so many posters and pictures.

The room smelled of her inscents as she sat in the lotus position oohming. She's really big on the whole relaxation thing.

"So... when's the funeral?"

"Why does that matter right now? Ohm." She said through clenched teeth.

"Well I want to prepare myself." I was sitting on her tie-dyed comforter looking at all the pictures of her and her mum that she had plastered on her wall. Chalice sat on the floor eyes closed. In the candlelight I saw the tears that streaked her face.

"Seeing as you're not going to give up I might as well fill you in on everything... I wonder if she reached Nirvana?"

"Of course she did, she was an amazing person! And you know what?"

"What?" she asked eyes still closed.

"Our mums are probably somewhere out there right now laughing hysterically at us down here meditating!" Chalice is really big on Buddhism; I'm

Agnostic which means that I don't really believe in anything.

Chalice laughed a little at my joke. "Well do you want the bad news or the shitty news or the funeral date first?"

"Um... let's go with the funeral date first, then the bad news, and then the shitty news."

"Ok. The funeral is on Thursday... so two days from now. The bad news is that your car can't fit six people, and the shitty news is..." there was a slight knock at the door.

"Enter at you own risk!" I yelled at the intruder. Cameron came in.

"Hey dad said lights out..." an intrigued look crossed his face. "What the hell is that smell?"

"It's inscents, if you don't like it then get out!" I said back. I actually found them quite soothing.

"No, no!" he sniffed the air. "I actually kinda like it, I was just curious. Goodnight guys."

"Night Cam." We said in unison. We giggled; he smiled and shut the door. Chalice got up off the floor and sat next to me.

"God Jade, I sure hope she's happy." She said with frustration.

"She left you two involuntarily... there was nothing she... or you for that matter... could do about her expiration date."

"Yes, but that's the shitty news... the cause of death... it wasn't involuntary at all... this morning, when I got up to go to school... I found her hanging from the loft." And with that last sentence we broke down. The inscents were no longer soothing, now it felt as if it were smothering me to death. For something like that her mum would have been reduced to a snail!-re-incarnation-Then something flew out of Chalice's hand. She'd thrown a balled up piece of paper at the door to the bathroom and crumpled on the bed. I decided to leave her in peace, but first I bent down to pick up the piece of paper, and left to my room.

In my room I unfolded the paper and started to read.

"My dearest Chalice,

I am so sorry that I have failed you and Luna, but I just can't take it anymore. Just always remember that I will always love you. Here are my final whishes.

Grow up and get an education, and make sure Luna does the same.

Be safe.

Burry me under the oak tree by Lillian

Take care of Luna.

Move in with Jarred, he and I have already discussed this.

Don't forget me.

Love, Your Mother.

And then it ended. It was Aunt Jillian's suicide note. So we had done a couple of things right so far. First Chalice and Luna were living with Jarred, my dad. Second they were being safe, and third, she was being buried next to Lillian, my mother. My mum and Aunt Jill had always had a strong relationship, and when mum died Aunt Jill just went so far

downhill she was hospitalized for a week. I felt bad about reading it and my mum was probably scowling at me right now. I had no right to read that. I went into a cold sleep that night that was full of nightmares.

"Life sucks, and then we die."

Chapter 5

Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth Chapter 5: Heels Over Head

Chapter 5: Heels Over Head

I awoke to the usual wrestling tournament going on and this time Luna and Ember were cheering on their favourite twin. Ember for Damian and Luna for Cameron, I was with Ember on this one, Damian had the upper hand. Cameron was more a lover. I thought again at the strangeness of how much different they can be. Cameron was less built than Damian and pretty much all he did was read old literature like Shakespeare, whereas Damian liked to skateboard, blow stuff up, and pick fights.

I also woke up to the sweet smell of sage... and there it was again... the oohming. My hand hurt a little so I looked over at it. There in my hand was the last thing that Aunt Jillian left on this crappy earth. I picked myself off the bed and realized that I'd fallen asleep in my clothes.

"FML." I sighed to myself. I headed to Chalice's room to do some damage control.

"Ohm... ohm." She droned on. She sat in the lotus position again on the floor with her eyes closed. What's even stranger was she was dressed in an all white dress looking thing and her brown hair was pulled back in a tight bun. To tell you the truth, this was how she normally acted, when we go to college she's going in for world cultures or something like that... yea... that's my cousin.

"Good morning Gandhi!" I said trying to hold back laughter.

"Oh, hello there Jade! How did you sleep?" I rolled my eyes.

"Shitty." She opened her eyes and did a double take.

"Did you sleep in your clothes?"

"Um... yea. So... are you going to school dressed like that?" I couldn't help but think about how she'd get called into the school's guidance office.

"Hell no!" I'm meditating hello! I'm going to be mourning, you can join me if you wish." I thought for a second.

"Um... Chalice... I don't think it's gonna make much of a difference whether I do or not." She opened her mouth to say something but then the door opened and Luna stuck her blond head in.

"Oh there you are, I'm having trouble navigating this house... I forgot there were rooms up here." She laughed. "Ember had to point me in the right direction." See our house is a little strange, our attic is huge so when I was little we re-modeled so that there were two rooms up here, I moved into one and now Chalice is in the other, and what's even better is the stairs are a metal black spiral staircase!

"Point is...?" Chalice asked. Luna sighed and stepped into the room, she was wearing teal skinnies and a

white Hello Kitty t-shirt; her makeup was pink and blue reminding me of cotton candy. The kids at school called her scene; I called her a very colorful person who sometimes got annoying with her bubbly personality.

"Point is, is that Jeremy is picking me and Damian up so that's two less people to worry about." She glanced in my direction. "Didn't you wear that yesterday?" I sighed.

"Can't a girl sleep in her clothes and not have her motives questioned?" she gave me a look and disappeared out the door.

"Jeremy?" Chalice questioned.

"One of Damian's... friends." I brushed it off, it wouldn't become anything, Jeremy was a real ass-wipe. She shrugged.

"Whatchya got there?" she pointed to my hand.

"Um... well you see last night when you kinda threw a ball of paper at the door... and you know me, I can't just walk away from a mysterious ball of paper." Chalice shook her head.

"Jade you're rambling." I looked at the ground, the full effect of what I'd done hit me.

"I know, Alice don't be mad please." I handed her the note.

"Why would I be mad that you read this?" I looked up shocked.

"Cause it's your mother's suicide note for godsake!" she shook her head.

"Buddha says 'Three things cannot be long hidden: the sun, the moon, and the truth' I am not mad. Come here." She was beckoning to her lap. I wondered if she was going mad. I looked at he funny. "Oh come on Jade!" I went over and sat in her lap and she put her arms around me and rocked us back and forth... it was oddly... soothing? "So I've been thinking, and I've come to the conclusion that mum had to of reached Nirvana."

"Really? Why is that?" she closed her eyes again and smiled.

"Las night I had a dream, she came to me and told me not to worry that she'd always be watching, and that

she was comfortable... at peace." With that she let go of me and stalked off to the bathroom, and proceeded to get my shower and go about the morning activities... I couldn't believe that my cousin was going insane. When I was all dressed and doing my makeup Chalice walked hesitantly in the door. She was wearing one of her white hippie skirts and a white flowy shirt (in India white is the funeral colour). Her long brown hair was wavy and went down around her shoulders; to top it all off she just had a little bit of eyeliner.

"Jade? Are you ok?" I sighed.

"Yea, I'm fine this is just pretty hard ya know?" She nodded. I finished up with my eyeliner and looked in the mirror. I was wearing a black Thirty Seconds To Mars t-shirt and black ripped jeans, I let my long black and red hair fall down to it full length around my elbows. She suddenly hugged me.

"Oh Jade please don't ever do that to me again! I can't get through this without you!" I hugged her back and then there was a knock at the door.

"What?"

"Um... I was going through all the shit on the counter and I found a box addressed to you." Came my father's voice. I immediately opened the door and ripped the box out of his hands.

"Thank you! Thank you, thank you, thank you!" I all but screamed.

"You're welcome." He said and walked away shaking his head.

"What's that?" Chalice asked looking over my shoulder as I destroyed the box.

"You'll see!" finally I made it to the treasures inside: coloured contacts. I took the little bottles out one by one, there were black, red, bright blue ones that glow in a black light-a.n "the system is down, the system is down!" haha to understand this you have to see this: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwZwkk7q25I... it will change your life I promise you-bright green that glow in the dark, and white! Haha Marilyn Manson... god I love him! Anyway I put the red ones in, remembering watching Ember do it-he had purple ones! -and blinked a couple times.

"Yes!" I said looking at Chalice.

"Oh my fucking god! That's insane! I love it!"

"Hahaha! I'm so excited!" chalice put on a pair of gladiator sandals and I my chucks and we walked out the door and down the stairs. At the bottom of the second stairs we met Ember who had come down the other set of stairs-a.n this is kinda what their house looks like on less fancy: http://afsharteam1.com/double%20staircase.jpg--He looked very depressed and was wearing... ALL BLACK!?

"Hey guys." He sighed.

"Hey Em... what's wrong?" I asked still very shocked.

"So get this, Jake calls me and says that he's moving in with his dad soon, and his dad lives in like Pennsylvania or some stupid place like that, anyway he's decided that we should just break up now cause it's never gonna work!" I was staring open mouthed at Ember when I hear the revving of an engine, Damian and Luna bounded past us and out the door.

"Bye guys!" I looked out the door and there was Jeremy waiting impatiently in his old 1991 Pontiac Grand Prix.

"He revved that piece of shit? Oh you've got to be fucking kidding me." I muttered to myself. Cameron came waltzing in in his normal tight jeans, black t-shirt, and dress shirt on top unbuttoned and the sleeves rolled up to his elbows. He had his black thick-rimmed glasses on and was reading some book. "Why didn't you go with them?" he looked up and shrugged.

"I don't particularly care for Jeremy... he's a cocky son of a bitch and every time I get near him he asks me to do some English paper for him, not to mention he and Damian fight non-stop." Chalice sighed.

"I don't understand you children." Cameron cocked an eyebrow.

"You're forgetting that we're only eight months apart my dearest cousin." He proceeded to walk out the door and down the sidewalk. Chalice took off after him.

"Listen here you little smart ass!" I laughed a little.

"Are you ok Em?" he smiled.

"Yea, I mean, all this has made me realize something, I'm bi, and I'm like totally heels over head for this girl!"

"Holy shit! That's really... wow Em." He smiled.

"So in honour of this moment, I'm giving you this for safe-keeping." He handed me a picture of him dressed in drag... it was Halloween... don't ask... and around it I had put in rainbow letters Skittles, Ember's nickname.

"To the death of Skittles." I said raising the picture as if it were a glass for a toast.

"Not the death, the temporary misplacement." I laughed.

"C'mon Em, let's go."

When we got to the car we still had twenty minutes, so I walked up to the usual throng of people in search of Jewel and Liz. I finally found them and walked up to them. Liz was sporting black jeans and a The Who

t-shirt. Jewel was wearing just about the same thing as Cameron.

"Hey Jade! Oh my god I love that band!" she giggled as she skipped toward me and hugged me! This was as much expected as Ember's confession was. "Oh I'm sorry, if I startled you Jade, I'm just so excited to see you!" she said as she let me go. She led me over to Jewel.

"That's ok, it's just coming from a houseful of boys I'm not used to being hugged, a punch on the arm would've been more expected." I said laughing.

"Well I'm gonna go talk to Adam and Matt. See you two in homeroom!" she said as she skipped off.

"Why is she so happy?" Jewel laughed a little.

"Matt and Adam announced last night that they had proposed to their longtime girlfriends."

"Oh cool." Wow... I guess that would make me very happy if I found out Brian had done that sort of thing.

"So how was your evening?"

"Um... interesting, I told you about Ember moving in right?"

"Yea, in great detail, you called it liberation." He laughed.

"Yea well last night we painted his room and Chalice and Luna moved in and then Chalice and I meditated... just another uneventful evening at the Carson residence." I finished out of breath.

"Oh... wow. I like your contacts by the way... so you'd be one of those vampires huh?"

"What other vampire is there?" I said a little seductively.

"I prefer the Cullen's way of life actually, I assume that you're familiar with the Twilight Saga?"

"Of course! They're only the best books in the history of the universe! But the movie sucked big time."

"Agreed."

"But yea, I guess that is the way to go, I just like the contacts." The morning bell rang. "Oh yea! I gotta tell you the highlight of the morning!"

"And what is that?"

"Ember and Jake broke up and now Ember's bi and he says that he's heels over head for some girl!" I said in a rush.

"Huh, so this is seriously off topic, but I was thinking about our conversations yesterday and I've decided that I want to hear you play."

"What?"

"The piano." He said with a duh sort of tone.

"Oh yea... that's right I forgot I told you that. Well you see... no one has heard me play except my dad and brothers... not even Chalice, James, and Ember. In fact, they don't even know I play. You know I find it very easy to talk to you?"

"Is that abnormal?"

"Very, I can't really talk freely to James cause he's just sort of the extortionist blackmailing type that can and will use anything to get to you, Ember just... everything is 'aw how sweet' or 'that's very adorable' and then Chalice, I guess I can talk to her, it's just, I'm

not a very open person." And then we were at the history building.

"However, seeing as I am winning you over with my charm..." he smiled at me and gave me a look that mad me weak in the knees. "I'd think it should be as easy as talking." He opened the door and made a sweeping gesture. And I giggled.

"Stop that, you're not as charming as you think you are." Total lie.

He cocked an eyebrow, "Oh really?"

"Really." We were walking up the stairs to homeroom; people were giving us strange looks, though I have no idea why.

"What's wrong Jade?" he asked as we walked out of the stairwell.

"Nothing, just thinking." He opened the classroom door and we started walking to our seats. Ember and Liz were engaged in a conversation and I wondered idly if she was his schoolboy crush. Suddenly I tripped over the leg of an out-of-line desk and started to fall forward, this was gonna hurt! When I didn't

feel the smack of the floor against my body I opened my eyes, and Jewel had caught me in his arms. I was shocked and very aware that this was the closest we'd ever been.

"Wow thanks, I thought I was a goner!"

"Ha, me too, can you stand on you own or do you want me to help you sit down?" there was no sarcasm, purely concern.

"Um... no thanks, this happens all the time, I'm surprised that I haven't fallen in your presence yet." I let out a little hysterical laugh; he still had me in his arms.

"Oh well then I might have to save you again sometime." He was smiling and let me go. I sat down and realized that Liz and Ember's conversation hadn't skipped a beat, what had felt like hours to me was merely seconds to them. I turned around to talk to Jewel and that's when it hit me. The warm fuzzy feelings that spread through me when I was around him, how I couldn't stop smiling, how I felt like crying every time he sped away on his Ninja. I looked at Jewel as if for the first time, it was that moment

that I finally realized that I was completely and hopelessly heels over head in love with Jewel.

"Now I'm heels over head, I'm hangin' upside down!"

-Heels Over Head, Boys Like Girls

Chapter 6

Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth Chapter 6: Shun!

Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth Chapter 6: Shun!

well... HERE IT IS! and you guys are in luck cause i feel like being generous today, another chapter is on the way! but let me tell you something, i'm getting extremely frustrated, i don't even care if you vote anymore, though it would be nice, but i would be forever grateful if you would take two seconds out of your time just to comment something stupid like "hi"... please! i'm on my knees here people!

It was first period English and the goddamn cheerleading coach was still our sub, and the evil bitch made today a silent study hall. I sat facing her

in our little group Chalice, Jewel, and I had formed glaring as she read her book. I thought dark thoughts of setting something of hers' on fire... preferably her. Chalice was sleeping and Jewel and I were playing a game of hangman. There were eight lines and Jewel was guessing, he had one of them filled in already with a head on the body.

"You are sooo predictable!" Jewel whispered to me.

"Uh! How?"

"I already have this figured out!"

"What is it then Mr. smarty pants?" we got an evil glare from Miss. Bitch so I pulled out a sheet of paper as Jewel filled in the remaining letters.

'Vampires! You're not that hard to figure out! But that's okay, you're forgiven.'

'Forgiven for what? I didn't do anything! What, am I not exciting enough for your complex mind?'

'That's exactly what I'm saying, but on the other hand, you do keep me entertained!'

'What?! That's not cool!!!! I shun you!'

'What the hell did I do? I'm just stating the obvious!' he was smiling so I knew he wasn't being completely serious.

'Double shun!!!!!!'

'Where are you shunning me to exactly?'

'I don't know... where would you like to be shunned, you saved my life this morning, I guess I could be nice.' I started giggling and Miss. Bitch shot us another nasty look.

'Stop that! You're gonna get us in trouble!' he was pinching the bridge of his nose trying to stop laughing.

'Ok, ok, where would you like to be shunned to?'

'Um... not anywhere near California.'

'Why?'

'I just hate it, remember I just came from there.'

'I don't know why you hate it so much, I happened to like it there.'

'Yea well I didn't and anyway it's far away from you.' I looked into his eyes and there was something there I couldn't place. The bell rang and we moved through the motions of returning the room to its former status, the room bursting into the chaos of teenage chatter.

"So tell me why you hate California." I asked Jewel when we were outside. He breathed a laugh.

"Well let's see it could've been the jerks who tried to murder me, or the humidity, I've forgotten." My eyes grew wide and I looked at him in disbelief.

"What?" he was smiling, though it was a bittersweet smile, as if recalling a sour memory.

"Yea, I was a smartass... they were the first string of the football team." He shrugged. "Whatever, glad to be rid of them." I just kept staring at him open-mouthed. "What?!" he laughed. I shook my head.

"Sorry, I'm just trying to figure out how you could possibly be threatened by anyone."

"Well although I look indestructible in your mind, I'm not." I pushed him.

"Ok, I'm starting to go with the football players." He gasped.

"Ouch." I smiled. "You don't believe me do you?" He cocked an eyebrow.

"To tell you the truth I don't." he sighed and looked up at the sky.

"Alright, in order to explain everything I'm gonna need an afternoon and privacy, are you doing anything on Saturday?"

"Ummmm... nope."

"Good then can I take you somewhere?"

"Yes."

"Can you contain your excitement and questions til then?" I giggled.

"No!" he rolled his eyes.

"Question?"

"Just one pleaaaaase?" he put his arm around my shoulders.

"Fine."

"Can you bring your Ninja?" he laughed.

"Yes." I pursed my lips.

"Can I ask one more question?"

"Just one."

"Where are you planning to take me?"

"Well when we used to come up here to visit my grandma, which is the house we're living in, I used to sneak away and explore the beach. Well, there's a cave that I found so that is where I plan to take you... scared yet?" he finished.

"Of course not! What, am I supposed to believe that you're taking me to this cave to slaughter me?"

"Yes." He said with a dark grin.

"Well I'm not buying it." I slid out from under his arm.

"Fine then, think what you want, but it will be at your own expense!"

"Besides, you like me too much to kill me." I started skipping.

"Yo! Assholes! Forget something?" I turned back to see Chalice running up and then pretty much crashing into Jewel who just laughed at her and apologized.

The rest of the day went on in a daze. Except lunch though, that was rather comical. Ember came out to the rest of the table and James spewed milk out his nose. While I waited for Chalice, Ember, and Cameron to appear to take them home, Jewel waited with me.

"So I'll see you tomorrow then?" he asked as Chalice and Cameron went racing across the parking lot toward the car and Ember followed shaking his head at their stupidity.

"Oh, that's right, you won't."

"Why not?" he looked sad.

"Well tomorrow's Alice's mums funeral, you'll be on your own. We're all going."

"Oh well then I think I'll skip school." He said happily.

"Cool, well then I'll see you on Friday."

"Yea, see you Friday." He said as he started walking off toward his bike, but turned when he was half way across the road. "Jade?"

"Yea?"

"Try not to fall in the grave." He said with a smirk.

"Can't make any promises." I laughed. As I started walking to my car, the horrible reality set in mixing along with the emptiness I was starting to feel when Jewel wasn't around. Tonight was the viewing.

The whole time we stood there receiving condolences I shivered, the very thought of being in the same room as a dead person made me sick. I don't do dead people, which was kind of ironic since I wanted to be among the living dead.

The car ride home was quiet. Too quiet so I decided to turn on my CD and let Bowling for Soup fill up the silence. I'm Gay came on and I started laughing.

"Hear that Em, say you're gay and everything will be fine." We all chuckled.

When we got home Chalice went straight to her room, I wasn't in the mood for dinner so the boys tired to make something... disaster. So I had to get off my lazy ass and put out the fire, and make dinner. I took a plate of rice pilaf up to Chalice. When I got up to her room I was a little shocked by what I saw, there were candles all over and she was slumped over on her bed silently crying.

"Hey... Alice, are you ok?"

"Yea, I guess. Come here and sit with me." Oh god! Not another meditation session.

"Ok." As I sat down on her bed she sat up and put her knees to her chest and hugged them.

"Is this how you felt when your mum died?" she sniffed.

"Like the whole world is crashing around you and you're gonna go right down with it?" she nodded. "Yea."

"What should I do?" I pursed my lips.

"Think of happy thoughts, like... how I'm hanging out with Jewel on Saturday." She looked up and smiled.

"No effing way!"

"Yea."

"That's awesome, well I'm gonna go to sleep now, I can use all the rest I can get for tomorrow."

"Yea, you're right, and don't forget to blow the candles out, I love my car, but not so much that I want to live in it." She laughed.

"Night Jade." She said as I slipped through the door.

"That's right ladies and gentlemen, pick up the phone cause Bowling for Soup is on the line! You don't have to be sad anymore! You don't have to be mad anymore! We can all join hands and do Ring Around the freakin Rosie! In fact can we get some Lalas up in here please?"

-I'm Gay, Bowling for Soup

Chapter 7

Converse Sneeks and Vamprie Teeth Chapter 7: You Fell... From the Sky!

Converse Sneeks and Vampire Teeth 7: You Fell... From the Sky!

I am aware that i have deprived those of you who are actually reading this for the past couple months, and i would just like to say that i'm sorry. I am curious though, how many of you actually are reading this? I mean i'm not getting like any comments at all, you guys don't even have to vote--although it would be nice--just take like two seconds out and comment. Do i need to start threatening to not upload if i don't get ten votes? Yea that's right, that's all i want TEN VOTES!!!! that's a miniscule amount people! So here's

the deal, i get TEN VOTES and you get the next chapter, is it a deal? READY, SET, VOTE!!!!!!!!!

I woke up with the sun shining though my windows, right in my eyes.

"Jade, it's time to wake up." A soft voice drifted though my mind... who was that? "Jade, let's go." There the voice was again... it was oddly familiar. "Jade I'm not gonna tell you again." The voice said more stern this time.

"Erg go away." I whined, and snuggled deeper into my blankets. Suddenly the blankets were off me and at my feet. I instantly curled into myself, even though it was May, the Oregon air was still chilly.

"HOW DOES DANGER FEEL NOW THAT YOU'RE ON THE RECEIVING END!?" the lyrics of Annabel by Alesana started screaming from my speakers on an ear shattering level, I shot up out of bed to see Damian leaning casually against the wall by my stereo, he was still in his pajama pants and an old gray t-shirt that had the Navy logo on it.

"Oh, I'm sorry did I wake you?" he yelled over the music. It was only... I looked at the clock... nine a.m. and I already had a headache. I covered my ears and he shut the music off. "I told you nicely." He smirked and left the room. I could hear him stomping down the stairs and pounding on everyone's doors yelling to get up. Chalice appeared at my door with a confused look on her face.

"I didn't peg him as an early bird." She said sleepily.

"Cameron must be up, if one of them's up the other can't sleep, it has something to do with that bond of theirs." I ran a hand through my hair, Cameron and Damian had some of the strongest twin telepathy I'd ever seen in my entire life, they could probably be on Discovery Health for it.

"Psh, I don't care how strong their stupid 'bond' is, it's annoying. Do you know where my dress is?" I thought for a second.

"The really pretty white sundress?" she nodded.

"Should be in your closet." I said confused.

"Well it's not." She crossed her arms.

"Well maybe it's with mine in the laundry room, I'll go check, you start looking for your little lacey jacket thing." She laughed and shook her head. I hopped out of bed and headed downstairs, in the process slipping on the metal stair and riding down the rest of the way on my ass. Once at the bottom I stood up and rubbed it.

"Oww... that sucked." I muttered to myself I heard chuckling and I looked down the hall to see Cameron coming up the downstairs stairs.

"Did you fall?"

"...Yes..." he laughed and walked into his room.

"Fucking ass." I continued my trek down the second set of stairs, through the kitchen and into the laundry room, where sure enough Chalice's dress hung, along with Luna's and mine. Chalice's dress was just a simple spaghetti strapped white sundress that went down to just about her ankles, she also had a lacey half jacket thing that was made for bridal gowns but went really well with the dress.

Mine was a simple short-sleeved dress that had a baby doll collar and it buttoned up from the waist, it came down to about my knees. And then Luna's... Luna's was bought for homecoming, being strapless and coming to about an inch above her knees... leave it to Luna to wear something risqué to her mother's funeral. I'm not saying she's a slut I'm just saying she's a little... well... okay... she can be a slut... but only sometimes! I took the dresses off the hangers and slung them over my arm. In the kitchen I met Ember having a bowl of cereal through half closed eyes.

"Hey Em, Damian finally get the best of ya?" He looked up.

"Yup." I laughed and walked up the stairs and to the hallway where Damian stood pounding on Luna's door.

"Luna you have to get up!!!!" he caught my confused glance. "She's not a morning person, she locked me out after the fourth time." I rolled my eyes.

"LUNA GET THE FUCK UP NOW!!!!" I yelled at her door, about a minute later I heard the lock click and

Luna appeared at the door eyes blazing. I tossed her dress in her face. "Get dressed, we don't have time for your bullshit." I turned and walked up the stairs as I heard Damian snickering I chuckled to myself. Respect my athoritay!

When I reached our bathroom Chalice was doing her makeup in the mirror, I held up the dress. "Special delivery!" she turned and smiled.

"Laundry room?"

"Yup, I must've washed it without remembering." I shrugged and went back to my room to change.

The funeral service was short, sweet, and to the point. We obviously couldn't have a "service" for her cause she killed herself and according to the people that constitutes a sure ticket to Hell... whatever. At the lunch I met a lot of Aunt Jillian's old friends and co-workers and stuff. Towards the end all of us 'kids' got bored and started doodling on the paper tablecloths and getting short with each other.

"Wow, you didn't even bring a book with you Shakespeare." Damian said to Cameron.

"What, have nothing to burn? I didn't think you went anywhere without that stupid Zippo of yours." Cameron retorted.

"Oh shut up."

"Make me big bro." they turned their backs on each other and that was the end of it. Cameron and Damian didn't fight often and when they did it was short and not very harsh. Most of the time it happens at times like this... when they're bored. Ember and I shared a look of amusement as they took turns slightly turning and glaring at each other. Cameron finally caught Damian.

"So gonna go hang out with your druggie friends tonight?" Damian's jaw clenched and he shot a nervous glance at me.

"Well at least I have friends." They went back to ignoring each other. Damian and Cameron really didn't hang out with the same people; in fact, you rarely saw them together at school. Damian hung out with the badasses, like Jeremy his loser of a best friend, who had a strong drug and arson reputation, while Cameron hung out with the brooding outcasts

and his girlfriend Carol. Dad appeared at the table looking grim.

"You guys can head home if you want, I'm gonna hang back with Chalice and Luna." I nodded.

"C'mon guys let's go."

When we got home I was anxious to get out of my dress so I raced up the stairs and put on a pair of ripped up blue jeans and a Chevelle t-shirt. I breathed a sigh of relief as I put my hair up in a pony tail and looked in the mirror.

"Comfort." I smiled and walked over to my desk and grabbed my Macbook off of it. I started running down the stairs and about ran into Cameron.

"Hey, slow down turbo." He chuckled. "Where are you going in such a hurry?"

"Oh, you know... out." He leaned against his door and crossed his arms.

"Out?"

"What are you my father?"

"Maybe." We stared at each other for a little then burst into laughter.

"I'm going to the tree house you dork."

"I see, well then, have fun." He disappeared through his door.

"Weirdo." I muttered and headed outside. Once outside I took in the sight of my tree house... well technically it was all of our tree house, but I was always the one who used it the most. The house was perched in this huge oak tree in our backyard that was right up against the woods that bordered the house, to the people who developed the land it was an imperfection and when they tried to cut it down my mum stopped them.

I climbed up the ladder to the little porch that surrounded the little-well not so little, I could comfortably stand up in it-blue and white playhouse. Once on the landing I opened the door and walked inside. There were lawn chairs and an old couch up here from when Brian was still at home, this was his hangout with his friends, and even a mini-fridge...yes

we have electricity up here. I plopped down on the couch and opened my computer and opened Safari.

Myspace wasn't my life anymore like it used to be, but it was basically my only way to communicate with Brian... and I was sooooo not using Facebook, it sucks you in man. -A.N. if you haven't seen the episode of South Park You Have 0 Friends, get on Hulu immediately and watch it!-So I can't really delete it like I would love to.

When I got Myspace open I noticed I had two new friend requests... how odd. I clicked on it and saw that it was Jewel and Liz... huh I didn't really peg them to be Myspace fans. I accepted them and I couldn't help but see how sexy Jewel looked in his picture, he was standing with a guy with black and purple hair smiling away, there was a stage behind them with lights and some band and there were a ton a people crowding them. I clicked on the picture and the caption read 'Dev and i at Smile Empty Soul!' Damn, that had to be a good concert, I'm so jealous. I go back to my messages and see Brian sent me one, I opened it.

'Konnichiha little sis from the land of the rising sun!- he's a dork like that-how's the homestead holding up? I'm sorry I wasn't able to come home for the funeral... between you and I, I really didn't try that hard to come home. You know how I get at funerals : / so anyway I have great news, I'M COMING HOME TO STAY!!!!! I'm finally done! I'm getting out! Isn't that great?! I'm so excited, it's like I couldn't wait to get out of there and when I finally did, I couldn't wait to get back. Don't get me wrong, Japan is awesome, but home is awesomer... yea I know that isn't really a word... it sounded better in my head. So anyway I'm coming home towards the end of August so I'll see you then.

Love you! XD'

I closed my laptop and laid back on the couch, wow Brian was coming home for the first time in three years. This actually excited me, I know exactly what Brian was talking about, I couldn't wait for him to leave and when he did leave I missed him like crazy. Haha it's a two-way street bud. I rolled over and found the remote to the little tv that sat on top of the

mini-fridge and turned it on. Before I knew it I was dreaming.

I was running through the forest looking for something, but what was that something? Then I saw the orange glow in the distance, that was it, a fire extinguisher! My house was on fire and I needed to find the extinguisher... but why was I looking for it in the woods? That's just silly. Suddenly Jewel was there... with a fire extinguisher... okay this just got weirder... I think I'll wake up now.

When I opened my eyes, the flashing of the tv was lighting up the entire tree house. I looked out the window and noticed that it was dark outside. How long was I asleep? I decided to go down to the house so I turned the tv off and grabbed my laptop off the floor. I was halfway down the ladder before my foot slipped on the next rung and since I was only holding on with one hand-the other had my laptop-there was no way I could catch myself. I closed my eyes and braced for impact, and when I did hit, it felt like all the air had gone out of me. Holy shit that hurt! But that wasn't my top priority at the moment, hello I had

a fourteen-hundred dollar piece of machinery in my hand! Luckily I had wrapped both arms around it and clutched it to my chest, it was safe. I let out a relieved sigh and noticed that it hurt... a lot. Oh god, I've broken my ribs! I heard footsteps on the ground and looked up to see the upside down figures of Chalice and Ember running towards me. With that image in mind I did probably the most irrational thing in my current situation, I started laughing hysterically.

"Oh my god Jade!" Chalice screamed... oh hey I must've really been asleep a long time... she's home.

"Are you okay?" Ember laughed, Chalice hit him and looked disgusted as I sat up, thankfully the pain was subsiding.

"Yup, I think so." I was still laughing and Chalice was still glaring.

"You scared the shit outta me Jade!" I stood up and cringed.

"Yea, sorry." I turned to Ember. "How stupid did I look from the house?" he started laughing again.

"Hysterical! The twins are in there right now rolling on the ground laughing." We walked into the kitchen from the French doors and saw Cameron and Damian on the floor, when they saw me they burst into laughter again. Damian held his Droid up for me, I took it and pressed play. We were looking at the woods and you could hear Cameron whispering in the background.

"Do you see anything Daim?"

"No not yet Cam, I swear to god I saw something though."

"Oh my god you two are such idiots, there is nothing out there!" Chalice's voice came, Damian swiveled to look at Chalice.

"Oh my god! There it is! It's in the house! Look at it Cameron it's so fucking ugly!!!! Run!!!!!" Chalice flipped them off and Damian swiveled back around to look out the doors where you could see my feet on the ladder.

"Daim Jade's outside! What should we do?!" Cameron's panicked voice came.

"Let her go, we can use her as bait." Damian snickered.

"Damian!" Cameron hissed, and then I fell. I burst into laughter and so did everyone on the video.

"Ahahaha! She fell... from the sky!!! Ahahaha!" Damian laughed, Chalice and Ember ran past them and out the doors.

"Haha, no guys, haha, don't go out there! Ahaha, it'll get you!" Cameron laughed, I could tell we'd dropped to our knees by the way we were looking at the cabinents under the sink and then the ceiling was the last thing before the video stopped.

I looked around at everyone and we all burst into laughter again. I sent it to my phone and gave Damian back the phone. "So what was all that talk of 'no it'll get you' and 'we can use her as bait'?"

"We thought we saw something out in the woods."

"Yea, like Big Foot or something." Cameron finished for Damian.

"Oh well thanks guys, glad to hear that I could help in your Big Foot encounter."

The video was up on YouTube within ten minutes, and uploaded to AFV within the hour. So it was a pretty good ending to a pretty awful day, when we showed dad he couldn't stop laughing, and when I sent the link to Brian he actually called me. Wow, what some people think is funny... my fucking ribs still hurt like hell thank you very much. If we win the money on AFV some of it is going to my physical therepy!

"Stab your Facebook, sell, sell, sell!"

-Flash Delirium, MGMT

About the Author

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